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Senate

The Senate met at 9:45 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we celebrate Your presence with us today. Your steadfast love inspires us ever to sing Your praises. Lord, You bless us each day with good things. Because of Your loving kindness, we find safety.

Today, strengthen our Senators with Your might. Give them the wisdom to distinguish between truth and error and the courage to act upon that insight. Use them as Your instruments to relieve the suffering in our world. Open their ears to the cries of our Nation's discarded and dispossessed.

As our lawmakers face great challenges, remind them that they are not alone but are sustained by Your unfailing providence. Remind each of us often that the plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage. We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 6, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6) to ensure jobs for our future with secure, affordable and reliable energy.

Pending:

Wyden/Dorgan amendment No. 792, to provide for the suspension of strategic petroleum reserve acquisitions.

Voinovich amendment No. 799, to make grants and loans to States and other organizations to strengthen the economy, public health, and environment of the United States by reducing emissions from diesel engines.

Martinez (for NELSON of Florida) amendment No. 783, to strike the section providing for a comprehensive inventory of Outer Continental Shelf oil and natural gas resources.

Schumer amendment No. 805, to express the sense of the Senate regarding management of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to lower the burden of gasoline prices on the economy of the United States and circumvent the efforts of OPEC to reap windfall profits.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in a moment we will return to consideration of the pending Energy legislation that we debated last week and this week and will complete later this week. We will resume debate on the amendment of Senator MARTINEZ relating to the inventory of the OSC. The time agreement we reached last night provides for up to 80 minutes of debate before the vote on that amendment, although I do not believe all of that time will be necessary. We would like to begin that vote no later than 11 this morning. We request that Senators come promptly for that vote.

We will be recessing at 11:30 to accommodate the weekly policy luncheons today. At 2:15, when the Senate returns from recess, we will continue through the amendments to the Energy bill. I believe the climate change amendments will be ready later this morning and for debate beginning at 2:15. We would expect votes on those amendments during today's session.

I reiterate that it is my intention to file cloture on this bill later this

evening. That would allow us to continue to consider and dispose of amendments, but it would also assure that we have a glide path to completion of the bill and that we would complete passage of the bill this week. The managers have done tremendous work over the last almost week and a half in moving the process along. I hope we can continue in that respect and finish the bill no later than Thursday or Friday of this week. Thus, we will be having a vote late this morning, and we will in all likelihood be voting on the climate change amendments later this afternoon. In addition, there will be the opportunity for people to come to the Senate floor and offer their amendments.

AMENDMENT NO. 783

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be 80 minutes of debate on amendment No. 783.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be equally divided between both sides.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, what is the parliamentary situation now? Are we having speeches on the amendment to strike the OCS inventory by Senators MARTINEZ and NELSON and CORZINE; is that correct?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator would have 8 minutes left.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask to be notified when I have spoken for 5

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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